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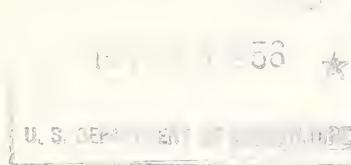
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Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA



December 20, 1955

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

Thanksgiving Day always intensifies my feeling of thankfulness for the bounties and blessings of the year. It brought me a good reason for expressing my thanks to you for your contribution to the growth and usefulness of the Graduate School and to express my pleasure at being associated with you in this great educational activity.

There are constant reminders that the Christmas and New Year holiday season is rapidly approaching. I wish for each of you all of the happiness and good cheer that a Christmas can bring and that this will carry through all of the New Year.

COMING EVENTS

January 11 - Know Your USDA "The Dial and the Switch" -
Rural Electrification Administration

January 16 - Close of fall semester

January 28 - Feb. 4 - Registration for spring semester

Honorable R. B. Tootell, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, has been appointed as a member of the General Administration Board of the Graduate School. He succeeds Dr. R. L. Salter, deceased. Mr. Tootell was formerly Director of Extension at Montana State College and Washington State College and was appointed Governor of the Farm Credit Administration by the thirteen member Farm Credit Board after it was established as an independent agency of the Executive Branch of the Government in 1953.

A harbinger of spring -- the schedule of classes -- is enclosed. We've taken a diversity of interests into account in setting up the following new classes:

Contemporary Trends in Public Administration. This will deal with the theory of organization policies, decision making at the executive level, and the application of scientific analysis to administrative problems. Carl Stover, the instructor, is an administrative analyst with Budget and Finance, USDA. A PhD candidate at Stanford, he taught political science there and has also served as a research associate in the co-operative program in education administration under the Kellogg Foundation, and as a consultant to the National Science Foundation.

Bacteriological Instrumentation. This new course in the biological sciences follows another taught by Herman Ellinghausen last semester. Again Dr. Ellinghausen will hold the class at the Agricultural Research Center.

Italian for Travelers. Plans for a trip abroad next summer are reflected in the demand for this course in beginning Italian. Bernard Finlay is the teacher.

Care of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, and Lawns. Gardeners in the greater metropolitan area asked for something along this line. We feel fortunate in obtaining an unusually well qualified instructor - Henry Schultheis, who holds a master's in landscape design from Cornell and is on the staff of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Data Processing on Electronic Computers I. This is being repeated this semester in response to a large demand. L. W. Armstrong of the Department of the Army is the instructor.

Two new members of the faculty who will teach courses that have been offered before are Salvatore Nerboso for American Government and Frank Rothman for Advanced Organic Chemistry. Dr. Nerboso, a graduate of Harvard, is librarian for the New York Times Washington Bureau. Dr. Rothman, also Harvard man, is research assistant at the Army Medical Service Graduate School at Walter Reed.

From time to time, we have to explain our name. When the Graduate School was established in 1921, most of the people interested in taking courses were college graduates. Later this was changed as opportunities for giving educational assistance to other employees came to be recognized.

The name applies more than it did a few years ago. Our most recent education statistics show a rise in the percentage of students with college or graduate degrees from 37.1 percent in 1953 to 42.2 in 1954, and 45 percent in 1955.

Some other interesting developments brought out by the statistics: the distribution of students by age groups continued the trend begun a year ago toward a slightly older student body. The percentage of students who were 30 years or older

increased from 63.7 percent in 1954 to 66.1 percent. There was no appreciable change in the distribution by Civil Service grades.

Total course registrations in 1954-55 were 5839, an increase of 19 percent over the year before. Enrollment of individual students totaled 4,165, an increase of 22 percent over the previous year. The number of classes, 353, compared to 324 in 1953-54, with an average enrollment of 16.5 as compared with 15 students in the year before.

Employees of Agriculture and HEW account in large part for the increase in enrollment. There were 507 from USDA in 1955 as compared with 339 in 1954. A new course program at the National Institutes of Health drew 403 from HEW compared to 90 the previous year. Almost all government agencies sent more students, possibly as a result of our effort to get more information about the program to training and administrative officers of all agencies.

Martin Kriesberg, a member of the Graduate School faculty, leaves this month for Jerusalem where he will direct the Public Administration program of the Hebrew University for the coming year.

Dr. Kriesberg, a marketing specialist with the Agricultural Marketing Service, has been Chairman of the Committee on General Administration and has taught American National Government for the past two years.

In Jerusalem, Dr. Kriesberg takes over the work begun by O. B. Conaway, assistant director, under our contract with the United Nations to organize a program in Public Administration in the Kaplan School of Economics and Social Sciences of the Hebrew University.

Meredith Wilson is retiring to a more strenuous life. He's returning to the family farm in Salem, N. Y. to help his brother operate a 45-cow dairy. His mother, now 95, also lives on the farm that came into the family as a grant from the British in 1773.

When M. C. leaves the Federal Extension Service at the end of this month, he can look back on a career that coincides with the great upswing of interest in professional training. He has been an important force in the movement. He has taught courses in extension methods in nine of the land-grant colleges as well as in the Graduate School. Last month in the annual meeting of Epsilon Sigma Phi, national extension fraternity, he was presented a distinguished award.

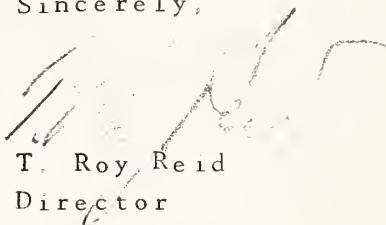
C. O. Henderson calls our attention to the announcement of the eleventh annual school of public administration at Montana University in February. Designed to give persons

engaged in the management and use of natural resources additional work in public administration, the offerings cut across several fields of administration. We have copies of the announcement in the Graduate School office if you are interested.

We notice that the comprehensive study of the farm problem by the Twentieth Century Fund of New York was carried out by Murray R. Benedict, professor of agricultural economics of the University of California. Dr. Benedict was a popular speaker in our lecture series last year on Farm Programs and Policies.

Fifty colleges and universities in the United States are giving courses on television for credit, according to a survey by the Michigan State Continuing Education Service. They charge fees of from \$5 for 1, 2, or 3 courses at Indiana State Teachers College to \$16 a credit hour at the University of Bridgeport. The University of Houston, one of the pioneers in college television teaching requires campus attendance for credit in courses that may be taken in part on TV. Michigan State University gives credit for TV courses equivalent to that for courses taken on the campus provided the student passes an examination satisfactorily.

Sincerely,



T. Roy Reid
Director